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**Guidelines for repositories assessment and review of the quality of
operations for data repositories**

Dr. Henk Harmsen

Head of the Development & Acquisition Department
The Netherlands Institute of Scientific Information (NIWI-KNAW)
henk.harmsen@dans.knaw.nl

Data Archiving & Networked Services (DANS) is active in the area of data infrastructure, with two main themes, namely (digital) archiving and making research data available. The field of activity of DANS covers both the social sciences and the humanities. DANS also manages its own data repository of research data.

In 2005, the founders of DANS, the Royal Netherlands Academy of Arts and Sciences (KNAW) and the Netherlands Organization for Scientific Research (NWO), gave DANS the formulation of a data seal of approval as one of its assignments. In February 2008, 17 guidelines were presented under the name data seal of approval, nationally at a KNAW symposium and internationally at the first African Digital Curation Conference.

This article will explain more about the backgrounds of the seal of approval: what it is and what it isn't, which international seals of approval exist, how this seal of approval matches them, what its unique selling point is, and what the plans for the future are?

There are several initiatives in the field of repository assessment: TRAC, DAF, DSA etc... This workshop could give an update of everything that is being done.

Key Words: quality assessment , data archives